



# PROCLAMATION

By

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke

**WHEREAS**, the white cane, or guide dog, which every blind citizen of our county has the right to use, demonstrates and symbolizes his/her ability to work productively in competitive employment; and

**WHEREAS**, the white cane, or guide dog, by allowing every blind person to move freely and safely from place to place, makes it possible for him/her to participate fully in and contribute to our society; and

**WHEREAS**, motorists should be aware that the law requires that blind pedestrians carrying a white cane or using a guide dog shall be given the right-of-way; and

**WHEREAS**, California law calls upon employers, both public and private, to be aware of and utilize the employment skills of blind citizens by recognizing their worth as individuals and their productive capacities as employees; and

**WHEREAS**, through the public education and outreach efforts of the National Federation of the Blind of California, citizens of this county can look forward to a continued expansion of employment opportunities for and greater acceptance of blind persons in the competitive labor market;

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED** by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors that Friday, October 15, 2004 is designated as "White Cane Safety Day" in the County of Los Angeles, for the purpose of bringing a greater understanding of blindness and what it means to be blind to the citizens of this county and call upon our schools to offer full opportunities for training to blind persons and to open new opportunities for the blind in our rapidly changing society, and all citizens to recognize the white cane and guide dog as instruments of safety and self-help for blind pedestrians on our streets and highways.

The foregoing proclamation was, on the 12th day of October 2004, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities for which said Board so acts.